

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization  
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date  
23 October 2003 (23.10.2003)

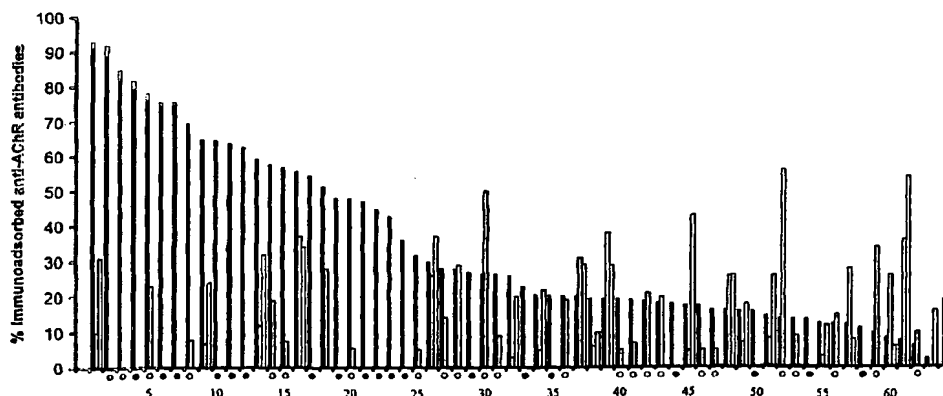
PCT

(10) International Publication Number  
WO 03/087373 A2

- (51) International Patent Classification<sup>7</sup>: C12N 15/12, C07K 14/705, A61K 38/17
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/GR03/00014
- (22) International Filing Date: 15 April 2003 (15.04.2003)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:  
20020100190 17 April 2002 (17.04.2002) GR
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- (81) Designated States (national): AE, AG, AL, AU, BA, BB, BR, CA, CN, CO, CR, CU, DM, DZ, EC, GE, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KP, KR, LC, LK, LR, LT, MA, MG, MK, MN, MX, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, RO, SC, SG, TN, TT, UA, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA.
- (84) Designated States (regional): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).
- Published:  
— without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: PRODUCTION OF RECOMBINANT FRAGMENTS OF MUSCLE ACETYLCHOLINE RECEPTOR AND THEIR USE FOR EX VIVO IMMUNOADSORPTION OF ANTI-CH RECEPTOR ANTIBODIES FROM MYASTHENIC PATIENTS



(57) Abstract: A procedure which involves the production of extracellular domains (or larger parts including these domains) of human muscle acetylcholine receptor (AChR) expressed in heterologous or homologous systems and obtained in sufficiently folded state appropriate for binding major fractions of anti-AChR antibodies in myasthenia gravis (MG) patients and of immunoadsorbing these antibodies when said polypeptides are used as permanently immobilized on insoluble matrixes. This procedure allows the ex vivo selective elimination of the antibodies against human muscle acetylcholine receptor (AChR), as a replacement and improvement of the non-specific plasmapheresis or Ig apheresis, for the temporary repeated treatment of the disease MG.

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